for raising additional resources for National Highways Development Project (NHDP) Phase-I and Phase-II, which comprises 4/6 laning 14, 279 km. of National Highways. No specific project-wise allocation from the CRF is earmarked. 74339.45 km. length of rural roads works has been completed upto 30-06-2005.

(d) Presumably, Hon'ble Member of Parliament desires to know the steps being taken for increasing the utilization of funds allocated to the States for construction/improvement of State/rural roads. State Governments are regularly requested to increase the pace of the progress of the CRF works and the progress of utilization of funds from CRF is monitored regularly. As regards rural roads, Government has advised the 10 Core States, 2 Hill States and 7 North Eastern States that they can engage consultants for preparation of project proposals, supervision, monitoring, training etc. for expeditious completion of works.

Losses to New Mangalore Port

1242. SHRI K. B. KRISHNA MURTHY: Will the Minister of SHIPPING, ROAD TRANSPORT AND HIGHWAYS be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government are aware of the fact that the New Mangalore Port would incur huge loss of revenue once th Kudremukh Iron Ore Company Limited stops mining operations as per Supreme Court decision;

(b) if so, the estimated loss of revenue to New Mangalore port; and

(c) the steps taken if any to make up the loss?

THE MINISTER OF SHIPPING, ROAD TRANSPORT AND HIGHWAYS (SHRI T.R. BAALU): (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) The estimated revenue loss on account of Cargo Related Charges from Kudremukh Iron Ore Company Limited KIOCL) to the Port will be around Rs. 15 crore per annum and on account of Vessel Related Charges will be around Rs. 7 crore per annum.

(c) M/s Kudremukh iron Ore Company Limited (KIOCL) is planning to bring iron ore concentrates from other sources. In addition, KIOCL is also planning to bring iron ore for their plant from Bellary Hospet area.

Utilisation of CRF

1243. SHRI EKANATH K. THAKUR: Will the Minister of SHIPPING, ROAD TRANSPORT AND HIGHWAYS be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that all States except Assam and Mizoram have been lethargic in using the money of Central Road Fund allotted to the States;

(b) whether it is a fact that Rs. 1,464.8 crore lies unused at a time when the Centre is pushing infrastructure development; and

(c) if so, the steps Government propose to take to promote maximum utilisation of CRF by all States?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF SHIPPING, ROAD TRANSPORT AND HIGHWAYS (SHRI K. H. MUNIAPPA): (a) and (b) During 2004-05, the entire allocation under Central Road Fund (CRF) earmarked for State roads were utilized by 17 States/Union Territories in addition to Assam and Mizoram. The total accrual during 2004-05 was Rs. 868 crore and utilization was Rs. 738.26 crore.

Initially, there was less utilization of funds earmarked for the State roads due to submission of less number of proposals by the State Governments. During the subsequent years, the progress of works has picked up. An amount of Rs. 1606.18 crore earmarked for development of State roads from the CRF lies unutilized up to 31-03-2005. As per provisions of CRF Act, 2000, funds accrued to CRF are non-lapsable in nature.

(c) This Department's guidelines to the States specify the CRF works are to be completed within a period of 2 years. State Governments are regularly requested to increase the pace of the progress of CRF works and the progresss of utilization of funds from CRF is monitored regularly.

Waterway transport in Lucknow

†1244. SHRI UDAY PRATAP SINGH Will the Minister of SHIPPING, ROAD TRANSPORT AND HIGHWAYS be pleased to state:

(a) whether the State Government of Uttar Pradesh have sent any proposal to the Central Government in connection with dredging, disilting and construction of ferry station to provide waterways transport in the city of Lucknow; and

(b) if so, the action taken so far in this regard?

THE MINISTER OF SHIPPING, ROAD TRANSPORT AND HIGHWAYS (SHRI T.R. BAALU) (a) Yes, Sir.

†Original notice of the Question was received in Hindi.